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PORT OF BALTIMORE CLEAN DIESEL PROGRAM REPLACES 50TH DRAY TRUCK WITH CLEANER VERSION

Replacement of Short-Haul, Older Diesel Trucks Under Mid-Atlantic Partnership Helping to Reduce Air Emissions

(BALTIMORE, MD) --- The Port of Baltimore's Clean Diesel Program reached a major milestone recently when for the 50th time, an older, short-haul dray truck was replaced with a newer, cleaner running version under a program supported by federal and state funds. The Mid-Atlantic Dray Truck Replacement Program is funded by a grant from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the Maryland Port Administration (MPA) / Maryland Department of Transportation. It is administered by the Mid-Atlantic Regional Air Management Association and the University of Maryland Environmental Finance Center.

The Port of Baltimore's Clean Diesel Program, in cooperation with the Mid-Atlantic Dray Truck Replacement Program, began in 2012 and provides \$20,000 toward the cost of a newer vehicle that meets or exceeds 2007 EPA emission certified engine standards. The Program also assists applicants with finding financing. Dray trucks are large diesel trucks that are used to haul freight from port facilities to nearby local distribution points. Many dray trucks are older vehicles with high emission rates.

"We're happy to play a significant role in modernizing the dray truck fleet and reducing air emissions in our state and region," said Barbara McMahon, MPA's manager of safety, environment, and risk management. "The Port of Baltimore community is committed to continually improving air quality through this program and other initiatives."

Trucks applying for the Dray Truck Replacement Program are prioritized through a set of criteria, including the age of the truck and the number of trips it takes to and from the Port of Baltimore. An important aspect of the program is that the old vehicle being replaced must be scrapped so that it will not remain in service and create pollution.

Interested trucking companies may find information about how to apply for the \$20,000 per vehicle incentive at the Mid-Atlantic Dray Truck Program web site (www.efc.umd.edu/cleandiesel) The University of Maryland Environmental Finance Center is processing applications for the program. More information is available at (301) 405-3577.

The MPA, which manages the public marine terminals of the Port of Baltimore, has previously been recognized for several of its environmental initiatives, including its Dredged Material Management Program, which reuses dredged material in innovative ways like wetland restoration and island recreation; a program which installs cleaner running engines in port equipment like locomotives and harbor craft; and the Schoolyard Greening Program, which replaces pavement at schools with grass and trees.

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Port of Baltimore Clean Diesel Program Replaces 50th Dray Truck

The Port of Baltimore is ranked as the top port among 360 U.S. ports for handling autos and light trucks, farm and construction machinery, imported forest products, imported sugar, imported aluminum and imported gypsum. Baltimore ranks second in the U.S. for exported coal and imported iron ore. Overall Baltimore is ranked 11th for cargo tonnage.

Business at the Port of Baltimore generates about 14,600 direct jobs, while about 108,000 jobs in Maryland are linked to port activities. The Port is responsible for \$3 billion in personal wages and salary and more than \$300 million in state and local taxes.

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